

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 01754 240812 Z

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ACTION EUR-25

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SUBJECT: TITO SPEECH BEFORE ASSEMBLY OF THE FEDERATION

REF: BELGRADE 1501

1. SUMMARY: TITO GAVE HOUR- LONG SPEECH APRIL 23 TO NEW GOVERNMENT / PARTY/ ORGANIZATION FORUM: ASSEMBLY OF THE FEDERATION. TITO COVERED NOTHING NEW IN REVIEWING COUNTRY' S INTERNAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUT FAVORABLY ASSESSED INTERNAL CHANGES AND PUT HEAVY EMPHASIS ON YUGOSLAVIA' S ROLE WITH THE NON- ALIGNED RATHER THAN ON RELATIONS WITH OTHER COMMUNIST STATES. END SUMMARY.

2. SITE FOR MASS GATHERING OF PARTY LEADERS, FEDERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS, SFRY PRESIDENCY, AND HEADS OF SAWPY, LABOR, YOUTH AND VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS WAS DOM SINDIKATA RATHER THAN SMALLER FEDERAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING. DIPLOMATIC CHIEFS OF MISSION ATTENDED. TITO STARTED BY SAYING REVIEW OF PAST TWO OR THREE YEARS WAS NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY IMMEDIATE TASKS AND EVALUATE FUTURE PROSPECTS. AFTER ALL THE EXTENSIVE BUILD- UP HOWEVER, HIS COLORLESS REVIEW WAS SOMETHING OF ANTICLIMAX. HIS READING OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS WAS FAVORABLE OVERALL, WITH EMPHASIS ON WHAT HE CLAIMED TO BE SUCCESS IN PUTTING LCY
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 01754 240812 Z

BACK IN ITS PROPER ACTIVE ROLE IN SELF- MANAGEMENT SOCIALISM. IN PAST, PARTY HAD BECOME WEAK AS WELL AS ESTRANGED FROM YUGOSLAV SOCIETY; SELF- MANAGEMENT SYSTEM HAD GROWN STAGNANT. BUT PARTICULARLY SINCE 21 ST PLENUM OF LCY PRESIDUM (DEC. 1971) PARTY HAD MOVED TO REAFFIRM IDEOLOGICAL VALUES OF YUGOSLAV REVOLUTION AND TO OVERCOME MANIFESTATIONS OF DISINTEGRATION, NATIONALISM, LIBERALISM, ETATISM, TECHNOCRATISM. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS NOW BEING FINISHED UP WOULD NOT ONLY GIVE WORKERS THE RIGHTS DUE THEM UNDER SELF- MANAGEMENT -- THROUGH DIRECT DELEGATE SYSTEM -- BUT WOULD UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE OF FEDERALISM IN THE MULTINATIONAL STATE, TITO SAID. TITO ALSO GAVE BOOST TO SFRY PRESIDENCY, WHICH HE SAID HAD MADE SIGNIFICANT POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. ON ECONOMIC SIDE, PRESIDENT CALLED STABILIZATION PRIORITY TASK BEFORE YUGOSLAV LEADERSHIP. HE ADMITTED POLITICAL SITUATION HAD OCCUPIED THEIR TIME (IN THE IMMEDIATE PAST), BUT NOW THEY WERE IN POSITION TO TACKLE REORGANIZATION OF ECONOMIC SYSTEM TO MAKE SURE DIRECT PRODUCERS WERE MANAGERS OF PRODUCTION PROCESS, AS DEMANDED UNDER SELF- MANAGEMENT. FINANCIAL POWER HAD TO BE MOVED FROM LEVEL OF FEDERATION, FROM BANKS, TRADING FIRMS AND " VARIOUS RESERVE FUNDS" TO BENEFIT OF DIRECT PRODUCERS THEMSELVES. TITO TRACED ECONOMIC PROBLEMS BASICALLY TO LACK OF LONG- TERM DEVELOPMENT POLICY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT " INTEGRAL NATURE OF YUGOSLAV MARKET".

4. FOREIGN POLICY CONTENT OF SPEECH EMPHASIZED NONALIGNMENT (" VOICE OF CONSCIENCE OF MANKIND") AND SUPPORT FOR CAUSE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. TITO FOUND GREAT POWERS' UNDERSTANDINGS TO DATE ONLY PARTIAL ANSWER TO PLEA MADE AT BELGRADE CONFERENCE 1961 TO THOSE POWERS TO SIT DOWN TOGETHER AND NEGOTIATE. HE REFERRED TO " VARIOUS STORES ABOUT OUR ALLEGEDLY CHANGING COURSE OF OUR INTERNAL POLICY" AND SAID THERE WAS NOT THE LEAST INTENTION OF TURNING YUGOSLAVIA AWAY FROM POLICY OF SELF- MANAGEMENT AND NONALIGNMENT.

5. MILD, INDIRECT CRITICISM OF US CAME IN COMMENT THAT ALL CONDITIONS NOT YET ACHIEVED FOR LASTING PEACE IN INDOCHINA: " ON THE CONTRARY, WAR IS STILL GOING ON IN CAMBODIA AND IN SOME PARTS OF SOUTH VIETNAM."

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PAGE 03 BELGRA 01754 240812 Z

6. COMMENT: THERE WERE NO FIREWORKS AND SCARCELY ANY EXHORTATION IN TITO' S POLICY REVIEW. AS USUAL, HE READ BADLY. HE CAME ALIVE ONLY AT ONE POINT -- WHEN HE TALKED OF THE CONTINUING FIGHTING IN INDOCHINA -- AND LOOKED UP FROM SPEECH AS IF TO SAY: I REALLY MEAN THIS. QUESTION LEFT AFTER ASSEMBLY OF FEDERATION PERFORMANCE IS : WHY SUCH A LACKLUSTRE SHOW? PERHAPS INTRODUCTION OF THIS NEW FORUM WAS CONSIDERED INTERESTING ENOUGH

IN ITSELF ; PERHAPS SAME FORUM IS TO BE USED AGAIN RELATIVELY
SOON. ALSO, OTHER MEETINGS COMING UP HAVE HIGHER PRIORITY,
E. G., TITO SAID HE DIDN' T WANT TO GET INTO PARTY AFFAIRS BECAUSE
4 TH PARTY CONFERENCE WAS PROPER PLACE FOR THAT.

7. HEAVY STRESS ON NONALIGNMENT SERVES YUGOSLAVS BOTH AS WAY
OF KNOCKING DOWN, ONCE MORE, STOKKKRIES ABOUT CLOSER TIES WITH
SOVIET BLOC (THERE WAS NO DIRECT REFERENCE TO YUGOSLAV- SOVIET
RELATIONS) AND AS WAY OF BUILDING UP IMPORTANCE OF ALGIERS NON-
ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER. FONSEC
MINIC WAS BACK FROM ALGIERS MEETING WITH BOUMEDIENNE IN TIME FOR
ASSEMBLY OF FEDERATION.
JOHNSON

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